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22 July 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GSUSA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SUBJECT: Article in CIA Weekly Summary of 27 May 1949, entitled "Communism in French North Africa"

REFERENCE: Memorandum to Director of Central Intelligence, 12 July 1949, from Chief, Intelligence Group, Intelligence Division, GSUSA, re subject, CSGID-ID-13-519.25

1. In reply to reference memorandum, I take pleasure in forwarding the following requested information.

2. With regard to paragraphs 3 a. and b., a number of documents, some of which are cited in Appendix I, led CIA to its estimate of French Communist Party Policies.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 c., Appendix II sets forth most of the material on which was based the conclusion that "local Communist activity (was) designed to...incite the Nationalists to adopt a more active role."

4. The statement referred to in paragraph 3 d. was based on State Department Despatches #72 from Rabat of 16 December 1947 and #29 from Tunis of 28 January 1949.

5. In reply to the questions contained in paragraph 4, the term "Nationalist revolutionary movement" is used, for the sake of brevity, as the most appropriate collective label for the three extremist nationalist parties (Neo Destour, WTLD, and Istiqlal) in French North Africa. Not capitalizing the term was believed to be sufficient safeguard to prevent readers from mistaking this "loosely coordinated" movement for a single party with "structure, command, and communications channels."

NOTE BASIC: Requested data of matr used for conclusions in subject CIA Daily Summary.

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6. The queried interpretations set forth in the CIA Weekly Summary of 27 May 1949 have been partly confirmed by State Department Weekly Summary, "Conference Reviews North African Situation" of 29 June 1949, with further corroboration in the State Department Despatches #129-130 of 13 June 1949 on the findings of the North African Conference held at Tangier 6-10 June 1949. Additional corroboration of the statements noted in paragraphs 3 a. and b. of reference memorandum is contained in the speeches of Jacques Duclos at Flamcon, Sidi-Bel-Abbes, and Algiers, etc., during his visit in May to Algeria on the occasion of the Fifth Algerian Communist Party Congress held at Oran, and material contained in Appendix III.

7. I welcome your inquiry regarding the conclusions reached in our Weekly Summary of 27 May 1949, as I am most anxious that our reports reflect the best estimates possible on the basis of information available in the Agency. Your comments will always be appreciated and I wish to assure you of our fullest cooperation always; please do not hesitate to have your staff discuss informally inquiries of this sort at the working level at any time.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

ATTACHMENTS:
Appendices I through III

ORE:B/WE:H:ea
Rewritten: DCI/RHH:RAR:ab
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Appendix I

1. Statement by Maurice Thorez in his book Fils du Peuple concerning the activities of the PCP, protesting French military action against the Moroccan nationalist leader Abd-el-Krim (the Rif War). (Relevant quotation is included in Cahiers du Communisme, January 1949, p.13.)

2. Statement with respect to the protest strike of 12 October 1925 against the Rif War in Morocco made in an article written by Maurice Thorez in Saint Charles prison at Nancy, entitled "La Greve Politique de Masses" and published in January 1930 under the pseudonyme "Germinal". (Reprinted in Cahiers du Communisme, January 1949.)

3. O-2, WDGS, Briefing "Flash", Africa--Political, 5 September 1946, entitled "Communists Reverse Line in Algeria and Tunisia in Bid for Nationalist Merger".

4. Weekly Review--Policy Information Committee, State Department, 13 September 1946. "Communist Offensive in North Africa".

5. State Department cable #4507, Paris (via War), of 10 September 1946.

6. Articles of the "Program of National Safety" submitted by the Central Committee of the PCP at Gennevilliers, 15 April 1948. (Cahiers du Communisme, May 1948.)

7. State Department Despatch #1223, Paris, of 30 September 1948.

8. The published declaration of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1949 as commented upon by Soviet Information Bureau commentator J. Mirov, and reproduced in February 1949 by the Central Committee of the PCP. (Cahiers du Communisme, February 1949.)

9. CIA Information Report [redacted] 25X1

10. CIA Information Report [redacted]

11. Statement by Maurice Thorez at the Central Committee of the PCP on 22 February 1949. (Cahiers du Communisme, March 1949.)

12. Foreign Policy of the Soviet Union as expressed th[redacted] PCP in March 1949. (Cahiers du Communisme, Ap[redacted] 25X1

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13. Statement in speech by Maurice Thorez closing the National Conference of the PCP at Montreuil, 9-10 April 1949. (Cahiers du Communisme, May 1949.)

14. Immediate objectives and policy as set forth in the "Resolution of the National Conference" of the PCP, as approved by its Central Committee, Montreuil, 10 April 1949. (Cahiers du Communisme, May 1949.)

15. State Department outgoing Circular Airgram (unnumbered) of 13 May 1949.

16. State Department Despatch #89, Tunis, of 26 January 1949.

17. State Department Memorandum #70, Tunis, of 6 April 1949.

18. The Second Annual Congress of the Moroccan CP at Casablanca, 22-24 April 1949.

19. WDGS Intelligence Report F-75-49, Tangier, of 22 March 1949.

20. State Department Despatch #94, Tunis, of 25 April 1949.

21. State Department Airgram A-11, Rabat, of 15 February 1949.

22. State Department Airgram A-21, Tunis, of 21 January 1949.

23. State Department Airgram A-32, Tunis, of 4 February 1949.

24. State Department Despatch #393, London, of 9 March 1949.

25. State Department Airgram A-53, Tunis, of 12 March 1949.

26. State Department Airgram A-66, Tunis, of 1 April 1949.

27. State Department Airgram A-79, Tunis, of 15 April 1949.

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Appendix II

1. State Department Despatch #1223, Paris, of 30 September 1948.

2. State Department Despatch #94, Tangier, of 11 April 1949.

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3. CIA Intelligence Report [redacted]

4. WDGS Intelligence Report #R-120-49, Tangier, of 18 May 1949.

5. State Department Despatch #85, Rabat, of 31 March 1949.

6. State Department Despatch #29, Tunis, of 28 January 1949.

7. State Department Memorandum #76, Tunis, of 6 April 1949.

8. State Department Despatch #84, Tunis, of 25 April 1949.

9. State Department Despatch #94, Tunis, of 7 May 1949.

10. State Department Airgram A-79, Rabat, of 10 November 1948.

11. State Department Airgram A-11, Rabat, of 15 February 1949.

12. State Department Airgram A-21, Tunis, of 21 January 1949.

13. State Department Airgram A-32, Tunis, of 4 February 1949.

14. State Department Airgram A-36, Tunis, of 17 February 1949.

15. State Department Airgram A-42, Tunis, of 2 March 1949.

16. State Department Airgram A-59, Tunis, of

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17. State Department Airgram A-66, Tunis, of 1 April 1949.

18. State Department Airgram A-79, Tunis, of 15 April 1949.

19. State Department Airgram A-86, Tunis, of 29 April 1949.

20. State Department Airgram A-93, Tunis, of 7 May 1949.

21. State Department Airgram A-101, Tunis, of 13 May 1949.

22. State Department Airgram A-40, Algiers, of 18 February 1949.

23. State Department Airgram A-46, Algiers, of 24 February 1949.

24. State Department Despatch #393, London, of 9 March 1949.

25. State Department Airgram A-93, Algiers, of 14 April 1949.

26. State Department Airgram A-97, Algiers, of 20 April 1949.

27. State Department Airgram A-103, Algiers, of 28 April 1949.

28. State Department Despatch #88, Tunis, of 29 April 1949.

29. State Department Airgram A-101, Algiers, of 27 April 1949.

30. State Department Airgram A-109, Algiers, of 3 May 1949.

31. State Department Airgram A-117, Algiers, of 12 May 1949.

32. State Department Airgram A-125, Algiers, of 25 May 1949.

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34. CIA Information Report [redacted] 25X1

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35. CIA Information Report [redacted]

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36. CIA Information Report [redacted]

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Appendix XII

1. State Department cable 750, Algiers, of 27 May 1949.

2. State Department Airgram A-112, Tunis, of 26 May 1949.

3. State Department Airgram A-143, Algiers, of 9 June 1949.

4. State Department Airgram A-654, Moscow, of 21 June 1949.

5. Special article "French CP Policy on Colonial Peoples" by Joseph Starobin in the 21 June 1949 issue of the American CP newspaper "Daily Worker".

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